

a DNA segment encoding a protein comprising a portion of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said portion is selected from the group consisting of residues 33-75, residues 93-157, residues 203-286, residues 299-351, and residues 412-548; and

a transcription terminator

under conditions whereby the DNA segment is expressed; and

(b) recovering the protein encoded by the DNA segment.

24. The protein of claim 23 wherein said portion is selected from the group consisting of residues 93-157, residues 203-286, residues 299-351, and residues 412-548.

Please add the following new claim:

26. The protein of claim 23 wherein the expression vector further comprises a secretory signal sequence operably linked to the DNA segment and wherein the protein is secreted into and recovered from a culture medium in which the cell is cultured.

REMARKS

Entry of the above amendments is requested. With entry of these amendments, claims 1-8, 23-24, and 26 are in the case. Claims 9-22 and 25 have been cancelled. Claims 23 and 24 have been amended, and claim 26 has been added. Amended claims 23 and 24 and new claim 26 are fully supported by the original specification as filed. No new matter has been added.

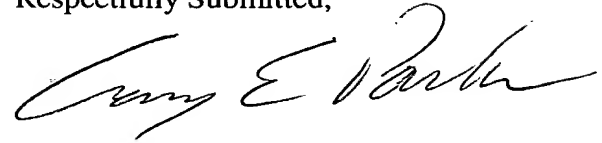
In response to the Office Action dated December 4, 2001, Applicants elect group I, claims 1-8, 23, and 24.

Claims 9-22 and 25 have been cancelled in view of the restriction requirement and election of group I. Claims 23 and 24 have been amended in view of the cancellation of base claims. Claim 24 has also been amended to depend from claim 23; no change in scope is intended. These amendments have been made solely to expedite prosecution of the elected claims, and not for reasons related to patentability. No issue of patentability has been raised with regard to any claim. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute claims to cancelled subject matter in one or more continuing applications.

A copy of amended claims 23 and 24, marked to show changes, is attached as an Appendix.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (206) 442-6673.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Enclosures:

Appendix
Amendment Fee Transmittal (in duplicate)
Postcard

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Appendix

23. (amended) A protein produced by [the] a method [of claim 19] comprising the steps of:

(a) culturing a cell comprising an expression vector comprising the following operably linked elements:

a transcription promoter;

a DNA segment encoding a protein comprising a portion of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said portion is selected from the group consisting of residues 33-75, residues 93-157, residues 203-286, residues 299-351, and residues 412-548; and

a transcription terminator

under conditions whereby the DNA segment is expressed; and

(b) recovering the protein encoded by the DNA segment.

24. (amended) [A] The protein [produced by the method] of claim [21] 23 wherein said portion is selected from the group consisting of residues 93-157, residues 203-286, residues 299-351, and residues 412-548.